

What Can I Do with a BFA in Studio Art?

This question comes up fairly frequently. Most people assume that if they want to have an art career at all that the best way to go is a degree in graphic design. While the graphic design industry does offer a lot of employment opportunities, it is not for everyone. Different artists have different talents and skill sets and the career path they choose should reflect their interests and passions, not necessarily where they feel that can make money. If you do something you love, then success will follow.

There are many careers that one can utilize a degree in studio art. These are a few possibilities.

If you choose to use your degree in Studio to focus on Industrial Design, you might pursue one of these:

- Package Designer
- Product Designer
- Toy Designer
- Furniture Designer
- Communications Designer
- Automotive Designer

If you choose to use your degree in Studio to focus on Fashion Design, you might consider becoming a Fashion Designer or Fashion Illustrator.

There are also a number of careers available for the Studio Artist in the entertainment and media industries:

- Art Director
- Cinematographer
- Computer Animator
- Special Effects Artist
- Scenery and Set Designer
- Costume Designer
- Make-up Artist
- Storyboard Illustrator
- Puppeteering/ Puppet Design
- Matte or Background Painter
- Editorial Art Director
- Editorial Illustrator
- Court Artist
- Book Designer
- Cartoonist/ Comic Strip Artist
- Political Cartoonist
- Medical or Technical Illustrator

Photojournalist/ Press Photographer
Fashion Photographer
Food and Product Photographer
Portrait Photographer
Architectural Photographer
Audio-Visual Designer
Law Enforcement Photographer
Legal Photographer
Medical Photographer
Childrens' Book Illustrator
Caricaturist
Science Fiction/ Fantasy Illustrator

The most obvious path to take with the Studio Art degree would be a career as a professional fine artist. This would also usually include a Master's degree in the Studio art, which the BFA is specifically geared toward. Among those areas are:

Painter
Sculptor
Printmaker/ Poster Artist/ Lithographer
Photographer
Ceramicist
Glass Artist
Jewelry Designer
Video or Installation Artist
Enameling and Metalwork Artist
Fibers, Textiles and Weaving
Mural Artist
Collage Artist
Conceptual Artist
Public Artist/ Outdoor Sculptor
Multimedia Artist

A studio degree can also assist one considering a career in the business of art, including:

Artist's Agent
Gallery Owner
Art Critic
Museum Director
Curator
Conservator and Restorer
Art Archivist
Display Designer
Slide Librarian
Exhibitions Coordinator

Art Consultant
Art Appraisal
Art Dealer/ Auctioneer
Art Authentication

The Degree in Studio Art can also dovetail nicely into a second major, either within Architecture, Interior Design, Art History or Art Education.

There are plenty of other areas as well where one could benefit from a Studio Art degree:

Floral Arranger/ Designer
Cake Decorator
Retail Display Designer
Antiques Dealer
Calligrapher
Sign Painter
Silk Screen Artist
Framing Shop

These are just a few of the possibilities to give you an idea of what the future might hold for those pursuing a Studio Art Degree